The People's Korea

No. 1,267 EVERY SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16, 1985 Per Copy Price:¥250 (US$1.00) (1961年8月22日第3种邮便物认可)

Presidential Message to Soviet Leaders

President Kim Il Sung on November 6 sent a message of greetings to General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and President Andrei Gromyko on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The message reads in part:

The October socialist revolution that the Russian working class carried out under the leadership of Lenin and the Bolshevik Party was a historic event which opened a new era of the transition from capitalism to socialism, a new era of the world revolution. Since then the looks of the world have fundamentally changed.

Today the Soviet people under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev are waging a vigorous onward movement to accelerate socio-economic development and complete a developed socialism in an atmosphere of a new political and labour upswing in which they are displaying greater enthusiasm, and they are struggling resolutely against the imperialists' policy of aggression and war and for defence of global peace and security.

The Korean people sincerely rejoice at the shining successes made by the fraternal Soviet people in the revolution and construction and actively support all the positive initiatives taken by the Soviet party and government to avert a new world war, a thermonuclear war, and preserve a durable peace.

Korean-Soviet friendship is an indestructible one between class brothers which has been formed, consolidated and developed through history in the struggle for accomplishing the common cause of the working class on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

We are deeply satisfied with the favorable development of the traditional friendship and cooperation between our two parties, two countries and two peoples on the uphill trend after the top-level meeting in Moscow last year.

We are convinced that the blood ties of Korean-Soviet friendship tightly forged between close neighbours and revolutionary comrades-in-arms will expand and develop on a more comprehensive scale in the common struggle against imperialism, the common enemy, and for defence of peace in Asia, Europe and the rest of the world.

Students Occupy U.S. Business Office in Seoul, Attack U.S. Economic Aggression

By Li Chol Won
Special to The People's Korea

In a second major anti-U.S. action this year, 14 students on November 4 occupied the office of the American Chamber of Commerce in Seoul for two hours and demanded that the United States stop its economic aggression and drop its demand for the opening of south Korean markets.

They also demanded the withdrawal of American capital, and an end to U.S. support for the dictatorial government in south Korea, according to a spokesman for the students.

Meanwhile, on the same day, students of Koryo University occupied the head office of the new village movement in Seoul and demanded the resignation of "the dependent regime of south Korea."

These two incidents came as a hard blow to the junta led by Gen. Chon Du Hwan who took a hard-line policy on students.

In the occupation of the U.S. business office the student group including 4 coeds from seven prestigious universities and colleges in south Korea plastered the windows with anti-government protest signs and even went so far as to declare that they would burn themselves to death by igniting gasoline splashed inside the office if police entered to prevent their sit-in protest.

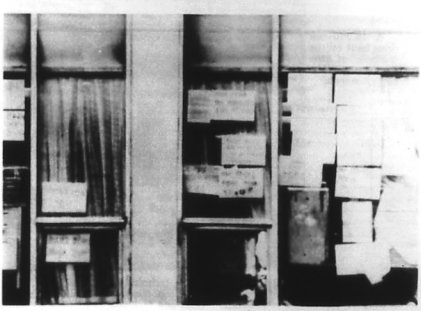
Some of them went out and distributed leaflets in front of the office which denounced Washington's economic policy toward Seoul as an aggressive act to enslave the Korean masses.

They hung two placards and a flag from the office building, shouting, "United States, stop at once your demand for open south Korean markets" and "Down with the regime saddled with foreign debts."

The students also demanded that U.S. capitalism that oppresses Korean democracy go away and that south Korea's foreign debts be frozen, according to an Asian Wall Street Journal

(Continued on page 8)

One of 14 students is shouting anti-U.S. and anti-"government" slogans while being taken to a police bus. (AP)



The windows of the seized office were plastered with protest signs. (AP)

Despite Seoul's Crackdown Student Activism Grows

SEOUL (Reuter) – A crack-down on dissent in South Korea is failing to dent the determination of students dedicated to the removal of President Chun Doo Hwan's government, foreign diplomats said.

"The strong-arm tactics do not appear to be paying off, if anything the student demonstrations are setting more violent," one Western diplomat said.

Fourteen students publicized their cause Monday (Nov. 4) by occupying the American Chamber of Commerce office in Seoul for two hours to demand Chun's resignation and an end to what they called "economic subjugation" by the United States.

Thousands of students have taken part in almost daily campus demonstrations over the past week in which riot police firing tear gas have clashed with protesters hurling stones and Molotov cocktails.

The students are backed by leading dissidents Kim Dae Jung and Kim Young Sam along with the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) who accuse the government of using torture to make students confess to being pro-communist.

Government officials deny the torture allegations and say they have evidence of pro-communist activities by a hard core of students bent on overthrowing Chun's government by violence and social revolution.

But dissident Kim Young Sam told a meeting of foreign journalists: "The mass of students merely want a return of full democracy with a free press and direct presidential elections.

"I can confidently predict that if the present government does not revise the constitution to allow direct presidential elections by popular vote there will be a military coup or civil uprising," he said.

Human rights groups here took heart after the U.S. State Department last month expressed concern at the reported torture of student activist Kim Kun Tae and the beating of three Korean journalists from the Dong-A Ilbo newspaper.

The Dong-A Ilbo is generally regarded as the most critical on Chun's government and many people here took the alleged beatings as a warning to other journalists.

EDITORIAL

New Anti-U.S. Struggle Kicked Off by "S. Korea-U.S. Trade Friction"

On Nov. 4, south Korean students occupied the Seoul office of the American Chamber of Commerce on the third floor of the Choson Hotel in downtown Seoul, and staged a sit-in strike, shouting slogans concerning "trade friction between Seoul and Washington," including "Let the United States stop at once its demand for the opening of south Korean markets." This anti-U.S. action taken by the south Korean students came as an anti-U.S. movement in a new form.

According to a report, on that day, more than 5,600 students from 13 universities across south Korea including Seoul National University rose in anti-U.S., anti-"government" meetings and demonstrations, chanting the same slogans. On the following day, Nov. 5, more than 2,000 students from 13 universities including Seoul and Pusan waged anti-U.S. demonstrations.

It appears that this incident added fuel to the anti-U.S. and anti-"government" sentiments of the south Korean people and students, as is clear from the reaction to it not only the U.S. but also the south Korean authorities.

In the background of this struggle is "south Korea-U.S. trade friction" rapidly increasing in the past several months.

The Reagan administration, as part of its measures to reduce a big trade deficit, demands south Korea implement liberalization measures in the areas of not only goods and services such as finance, but also insurance and movie and intellectual properties.

Meanwhile, the Americans are going to take tough measures to control, for example, import of textiles and clothes – major export goods of south Korea – and bring charges of dumping against its album export which amounts to no more than 30 million dollars per year. All south Korean trade firms unanimously protest this American market-opening pressure, condemning it as "unfair."

By the way, recently, the south Korean authorities made public an import-liberalization programme, yielding to American pressure, while examining legislative measures to cope with the market-opening. This has aroused strong discontent among south Korean economic circles, especially the textile trade, minor enterprises and the broad popular masses.

They say that American pressure is "a discriminatory policy against a non-Caucasian country" and "the U.S. is not our friendly nation."

People in various sectors of the nation, particularly students, accuse the U.S. and south Korean authorities as follows:

1) U.S. market-opening pressure on south Korea is unfair, 2) Washington is shifting its domestic economic crisis on Seoul, 3) The U.S. presents a strong demands only to south Korea, but does not dare to do anything to Japan which is mainly responsible for the U.S. trade deficit, and 4) The Chon Du Hwan junta, yielding to American pressure, tries to make minor enterprises and the popular masses carry a heavier burden.

South Koreans demand that the Reagan administration "stop pressuring south Korea" and the Chon Du Hwan junta take proper "measures."

Thus, this anti-U.S. struggle was caused by increasing "south Korea-U.S. trade friction, but the background to it is deep-rooted. Anti-U.S. feelings and trends for independence have been increasing and accumulated since the Kwangju Massacre in May 1980, not to mention the occupation incident of the United States Information Service building in last May.

Anti-U.S. sentiments will continue to increase without weakening, as long as the U.S. holds south Korea as a colony and a military base.

Americans should get out of south Korea and not interfere in the internal affairs of Korea. As long as this situation continues, anti-U.S. struggles for independence will further intensify in future.

Meanwhile, the above-mentioned sit-in struggle is taking on the character of an anti-"government" struggle to condemning the Chon junta for yielding to the U.S. and for doing anything to prolong its political power.

The Chon Du Hwan junta understands that the spearhead of struggle will be turned to itself, if it takes no measures to control the situation. So, the south Korean authorities are making frantic efforts to suppress the anti-U.S. struggle. But this will result only in digging grave for themselves.

Zoological Collections to Mr. Kim Jong Il as Gifts from Sweden

A new animal house was opened at the Pyongyang Central Zoo on October 18.

Kept there are hundreds of rare animals of more than 80 species sent by Jonas Whalstrom, director of the Skansen Aquarium, Sweden.

He sent these zoological collections to Mr. Kim Jong Il as gifts on the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea.

This modernly built house of gift animals consists of an aquarium, a monkeys room, crocodiles room, a reptiles room and a nocturnal animals room.

Conspicuous among them are the common marmoset, the pygmy marmoset, and other small monkeys with beautiful furs. They weigh 100 to 150 grammes.

Many other animals including the night apes and flying fox of the nocturnal animals room strike the eyes of the visitors.

The boa constrictor several meters long, octodons and squirrels of beautiful color are also rare animals.

Jonas Whalstrom told reporters that the Skansen Aquarium would expand exchange and cooperation with the Pyongyang Central Zoo.

The visitors find in the Pyongyang Central Zoo zoological collections sent by foreign heads of state and personages to President Kim Il Sung as gifts.

Among them there are lions, zebras and African buffaloes sent by Tanzanian President Julius K. Nyerere and the lemur macaco sent by Malagasy President Didier Ratsiraka.

Rodong Sinmun Meets Its 40th Birthday

A meeting celebrating the 40th anniversary of the founding of Rodong Sinmun (November 1, 1945) was held at the People's Palace of Culture on Oct. 31.

Vice President Pak Sung Chul read a congratulatory message of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the journalists, editors and other employees of Rodong Sinmun (organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea).

Li Song Bok made a report.

The founding of Rodong Sinmun, he noted, was the first in the history of the revolutionary publications to appear as the party organ of the Juche type serving for the victory of the Juche cause, guided by the Juche idea.

Rodong Sinmun has comprehensively brought to materialization the party's idea, theory and intention in keeping with the demand of the new reality, thereby actively playing the role of an organizational propagandist and an organizational mobilizer for accelerating the cause of modelling the whole society on the Juche idea and bringing earlier the complete victory of socialism under the banner of the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, the reporter said.

Outlining the tasks facing the paper today, he stressed that the party paper should remain the mightiest ideological citadel and shield firmly defending the party and the leader for ever through generations and ensuring their authority and prestige in every way.

Present there were Pak Sung Chul, Kim Hwan and Ho Dam, members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Chong Jun Gi, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, Ho Jong Suk, Secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and officials concerned, the journalists, editors and other employees of Rodong Sinmun and men of the press in the city.

Invited there were journalists of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan), press officials of various embassies in Pyongyang, an official of an international organization and foreign correspondents.

Ryongsong Machine Complex Built 10,000 Ton Press

The Ryongsong Machine Complex, one of the leading machine building bases of Korea, has built a 10,000 ton press.

The 10,000 ton press has been built by the workers of the complex as a gift of labour to the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea, upholding the task given by Mr. Kim Jong Il, while giving working-guidance to the complex on May 18, 1984.

The building of the 10,000 ton press was a course of constant technical innovation and new inventions in the true sense of the term.

The complex built a 6,000 ton press at the end of the 1960s. At that time the building took four years. But it was not an easy undertaking to build a 10,000 ton press, incomparably larger and more difficult than that, in one year or so.

A collective technological innovation drive was vigorously waged at the complex.

As a result, over 830 technical innovation drive were advanced and introduced in the period of the building of the press. This means the introduction of about 1.7 new technical proposals on a daily average.

This has saved over 158,900 man-days of labour, over 12,400 tons of steel, 2,721,500 kWh of electricity, etc. to give fabulous profits to the country.

These technical innovations helped to build in one year or so the 10,000 ton press which had been regarded to take 4-5 years.

The state commission of science and technology recently registered as state inventions 45 proposals of great significance for the national economy including a new winching method of large and heavy weight materials new plating method of large parts and processing of beam moulds, etc. and decided to award certificates of invention to 96 workers, technicians and administrative personnel who had participated in the technical innovation drive. Over 790 proposals were appraised as inventions and technical rationalization proposals.

A 10,000 ton press built by the workers of the Ryongsong Machine Complex

Int'l Conf. for Support to Peace And Reunion of Korea Held in Geneva

The International Conference for Support to Peace and Reunification of Korea was held on Oct. 26 and 27 in Geneva, Switzerland, under the sponsorship of Roger Dafflon, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Switzerland and Administrative Councilor of Geneva, and other figures.

Present there were a large number of representatives of 23 political parties, parliamentarians, figures of various concerns of the press from Western and Northern Europe. They include:

- Armand Magnin, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Switzerland
- Sean Garland, General Secretary of the Irish Workers' Party
- Jean Vincent, Honorary President of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Switzerland
- Hans Jorg Hofer, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Switzerland
- Peter Vollmer, Vice Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Switzerland
- Andre Chavane, member of the Directory Committee of the Social Democratic Party of Switzerland
- Dario Ghisletta, Deputy General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Autonomous Socialist Party of Switzerland
- Willy Burgeon, member of the Bureau of the Belgian Socialist Party (P.S.) George Pattas, member of the International Relations Committee of the Panhellentic Socialist Movement
- Brilakis Antonis, Membjakth Okve Committee of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece (interior)
- Vassilis Efremids, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece
- Bannino Chiti, member of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party
- Joaqin Miranda, member of the International Relations Committee of the Communist Party of Portugal
- Blasco Hugo Fernandes, member in charge of the International Relations of the Political Committee of the Democratic Movement of Portugal
- Fernando Piteira Fantos, deputy director of the Portuguese Paper Diario De Lisboa
- Adolfo Pastor, deputy mayor of Madrid, Spain
- Francois Assensi, member of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party
- Ron Brown, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the British Labour Party
- Vishnu Sharma, member of the Political Committee of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Great Britain
- Joop Morrian, member of the central Committee of the Communist Party of Netherlands
- Philis Agius, member of the National Executive Committee of the Malta Labour Party
- Karl Krager, member of the Central Committee of the Austrian Communist Party
- Niels Rosendal Jensen, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Denmark
- Inger Harms, parliamentarian from the Socialist People's Party of Denmark
- Inger Johansen, member of the Executive Committee of the Left-Wing Socialist Party of Denmark
- Anna Liisa Jokinen, parliamentarian from the People's Democratic League of Finland
- Bjorgulf Froyn, former chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Left Party in Norway
- Gunnar Kristiansen, member of the Central Committee of the Norwegian Communist Party
- Oswald Soderkvist, member of the Central Committee of the Left Party Communists of Sweden
- Lucio Luzzatto, President and Guy Dupre, Secretary General, of the International Liaison Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea and co-chairman of the Nordic Cooperation Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean People.

Also present at the conference were a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea led by Hwang Jang Yop, Secretary of the WPK Central Committee and a delegation of the "National Democratic Front of South Korea."

Roger Dafflon made an open address at the meeting on Oct. 26.

Noting that the resolution of the 30th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the Korean question has not been implemented, he denounced the war policy and aggressive moves of the U.S. and the south Korean junta.

He called upon the attendants of the conference to launch a powerful solidarity movement for supporting the struggle of the Korean people for peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification.

Willy Burgeon, member of the Bureau of the Belgian Socialist Party made a report on the subject "On peace and reunification of Korea."

Declaring that the question of peace in Korea and her reunification is now one of the urgent international problems, he said the peaceful solution of the Korean question is not only a question of realising the national sovereignty of the Korean people, but also a question conforming to the desire of the progressive mankind to build an independent and peaceful world free from all manner of domination and subjugation, aggression and war and a question of global peace and security.

He dwelt on the tense situation of the Korean Peninsula and expressed support to the struggle of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government for the reunification of the country.

Referring to the dialogue between the north and south of Korea, he stressed that the United States and the south Korean authorities must approach with sincerity the talks for peace on the Korean Peninsula.

The report was followed by speeches.

Hwang Jang Yop and the head of the delegation of the "National Democratic Front of South Korea" delivered speeches at the conference.

Following the previous day, a number of European political and public figures took the floor on October 27.

The meeting adopted a letter to the heads of state and government of all countries of the world, an appeal to the parliaments, political parties and public organizations of all countries of the world and a letter to the United Nations Secretary General and an action program.

The letter to Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, says:

The attendants of the conference discussed ways for easing tension in Korea and, furthermore, completely removing it, dispelling the danger of a nuclear war and contributing to the realization of the peaceful reunification, the desire of the entire Korean people, and have the honor of informing you of the results, requesting your deep attention to the developments today.

The attendants consider that the proposal for tripartite talks involving the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the U.S.A. and the south Korean authorities is a realistic proposal according with the resolution which was adopted at the 30th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The attendants hope you to exercise your high authority and contribute to realizing tripartite talks which would open a favourable phase for a durable peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification in conformity with the desire of the people who treasure world peace.

Letter to Heads of State, Government

A letter to the heads of state and government of all countries of the world was adopted on October 27 at the International Conference for Support to Peace and Reunification of Korea which was held in Geneva.

Noting that Korea still remains in a state of artificial division, though 40 years have passed since the end of the Second World War, the letter says:

The presence of foreign forces in south Korea, which continued arms buildup and military exercises staged on a massive scale with the participation of foreign troops armed with ultra-modern military equipment, are fraught with the danger of a mere incident sparking off a nuclear war.

This compels us to think that if a new war broke out in this region, it would inevitably spread beyond the boundary of the Korean Peninsula and spell a danger to the whole international community.

The attendants of the conference deem it the sense of obligation of the leaders of all countries to their peoples and entire mankind to do their utmost for decisive measures to halt such developments, achieve a durable peace on the Korean Peninsula and defend it.

The attendants of the conference consider that the basic way for this is a peaceful reunification of Korea and, to this end, preconditions for a peaceful reunification should be created in accordance with the resolution of the 30th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

We think these preconditions are the withdrawal of foreign forces, replacement of the Armistice Agreement signed between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States of America in 1953 with a peace agreement and adoption of a declaration of non-aggression between the north and the south of Korea.

Then, the Korean people would be able to solve the question of national reunification in a peaceful way without any outside interference.

The attendants of the conference affirmatively estimated the DPRK's proposal for tripartite talks involving the DPRK, the U.S.A. and south Korea.

Judging from the fact that the United States had already suggested such talks, the tripartite talks might be opened at an earlier date.

The attendants of the conference call upon the parties concerned to accept this proposal aimed at signing a peace agreement between the DPRK and the U.S.A. and adopting a non-aggression declaration between the north and the south of Korea.

We are glad over the resumption of the talks between north and south of Korea, and think that if the forthcoming Olympic Games were cosponsored by the north and south, it would open a favourable phase for the reunification.

In the belief that your efforts will make effective contributions to averting the danger of a new war in Korea, guaranteeing peace and security in Korea and, furthermore, in the world and solving the Korean question in a peaceful way, we express high considerations to your excellencies.

Appeal

An appeal to the parliaments, political parties and public organizations of all countries of the world was adopted on October 27 at the International Conference for Support to Peace and Reunification of Korea held in Geneva.

Noting that it is a very important question to remove the danger of war and guarantee a durable peace in Korea, the appeal says:

For a peaceful solution of the Korean question the United States must withdraw its troops from south Korea and stop interfering in the internal affairs of Korea.

Then conditions will be created for realizing peaceful reunification by means of dialogue and negotiation between the north and the south.

The attendants of the conference consider that the proposal for tripartite talks involving the DPRK, the U.S.A. and south Korea put forward by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in January 1984 is a most realistic way of averting the danger of war and guaranteeing a durable peace.

The attendants of the conference appeal to the parliaments, political parties and public organizations of all countries of the world to make efforts for the realization of the tripartite talks.

Affirmatively appraising the dialogue which is going on between the north and the south of Korea, the attendants of the conference hope that this dialogue will develop to a higher level.

The attendants of the conference consider that the primary attention should be paid at the north-south parliamentary talks to the publication of a joint declaration of non-aggression between the north and south and to the solution of other questions conducive to the promotion of national reconciliation and trust and relaxation of tension.

And the attendants of the conference consider that to hold the forthcoming Olympic Games as all-Korea games would be helpful to the promotion of the reunification of Korea.

The attendants of the conference believe that all the justice- and peace-loving forces will more vigorously wage the international solidarity movement to support the Korean people's desire for peace in the country and its peaceful reunification and thereby make a great contribution to the removal of the danger of a nuclear war.

The action program stresses the need to induce the European countries to establish or develop relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the political, public and cultural organizations and trade unions to be active in such a manner as to promote negotiation between the parties concerned for the reunification of Korea.

The action program calls for a joint action for making the United Nations implement the resolution adopted at its 30th General Assembly and efforts of each country to get the 1988 Olympic Games held in the spirit of Olympiad and the peace-loving spirit.

In this connection, the program says: The conference holds that the 1988 Olympic Games should be cosponsored by the north and the south of Korea, and Korea should send a single team to it.

A closing address was made at the conference by Roger Dafflon, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Switzerland and Administrative Councilor of Geneva.

"Let's Go to the North Where We Are Given Rice and Houses": Children in S. Korea

"Christian Thought", a south Korean monthly magazine, was suspended on October 29 for 6 months because of an article in its October issue which reported favorably on the livelihood of the north Korean people, Choson Ilbo reported on Oct. 30.

It was learned that Mrs. Li Jong Ae, its reporter, wrote an article titled "Wake up and sing a song," wherein praised Pyongyang on the basis of interviews with people facing compulsory relocation by order of the "government" for a construction of a large-scale apartment complex in the Mokdong area.

Children of the area were quoted as saying that north Korea is a good place to live in. According to the article, the children said,"Let's go to the north where we are given rice and houses."

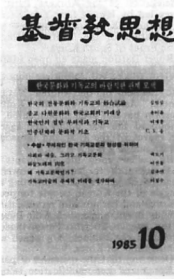
It was not known what or who made them say so in a society of strictly controled mass media.

In connection with the report, two women, including Mrs. Li, were arrested on charges of violating the "national security law" and two senior staff members including its chief editor were fired.

"Christian Thought" is the first regular periodical that has been suspended for violating the "national security law", since the "fifth republic" was established in 1980.

The magazine editor asked the readers to cut out the pages carrying the above article and to send them back to the head office of the magazine as soon as possible, according to Choson Ilbo on Oct. 30.

The Korean Society for Christian Literature has been publishing the magazine since 1957.



This is the front cover of the October issue of "Christian Thought" which cost its suspension for an article wherein praised Pyongyang.

Relation between U.S. and S. Korea Is Master-Servant One: Former S. Korean "Foreign Minister"

There have never been relations of companionship, but only master-servant relations, between the United States and the south Korean authorities over the last four decades, declared Choe Dok Sin, Chairman of the "Paedal National Council," an overseas Korean organization in the United States, and former south Korean "foreign minister".

Choe Dok Sin, former south Korean "foreign minister" and now Chairman of the "Paedal National Council", an overseas Koreans organization in the United States said, on August 13 that the relation between the U.S. and south Korea has been a master-servant one over the last four decades.

Choe was giving a lecture in Tokyo, on August 12 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Korean liberation.

August 15, he said, proved to be anything but liberation to South Korea. It has become clear that the United States is, by nature, neither a liberator nor a helper, nor a protector.

He continued:

Repression of the people has continued in the south Korea under the Domination of foreign colonialism and military dictatorship. Therefore, south Korea has never been an independent state, and no one there has ever been conscious of his or her being a member of a free nation.

I confirmed this through my vivid experience.

The south Korean "government" is only obliged to tail behind the United States. It does not have an equal right to know or to speak.

Looking back on the past days, we may say that it is the U.S. occupation and domination that has brought disgrace and the distress of national division to our nation.

Calling for the establishment of a unified government by confederation for national reunification, he stressed:

True members of our nation, nationalists or communists, must all unite their efforts and turn out for the cause of national reunification.

Chon Junta's War Preparations

The south Korean national assembly decided on next year's military spendings scaled at 4,300,000 million won, or 12.6 per cent more than this year's.

It plans to appropriate this colossal amount of fund for the introduction of "F-16" fighter-bombers, combat helicopters, missile-equipped destroyers and other ultra-modern attack weapons from the United States and the production of various kinds of military hardware and chemical weapons.

Military expenditure in south Korea has leapfrogged after Gen. Chon Du Hwan took power. Next year it is expected to nearly treble the figure in the last days of late dictator Pak Jung Hi's rule and represent 292 times the 1960 figure.

Bankruptcy of S. Korean Agriculture

The annual average yields of rice and barley which hold more than 80 percent of south Korea's total grain production are on the steady decline. The annual average yields in the 1980-82 period showed a decrease of 20.7 percent in rice and 40.2 percent in barley as against the 1977-79 period.

As a result, the rate of south Korea's self-sufficiency in food dropped to 42.2 percent in 1981, whereas the import of grain had increased year after year to reach 8, 140,000 tons in 1981.

The south Korean annually import 1,250 million dollars' worth of grain on an average, 988 million dollars' worth of grain, or nearly 80 percent of the import, from the United States.

This is driving the south Korean authorities saddled with heavy foreign debts amounting to more than 51,000 million dollars deeper into a predicament.

S. Korea's Foreign Debts Increase

According to a report of the south Korean "government" to the national assembly, south Korea's foreign debts increased to 45.4 billion dollars as of September this year, Kyodo reported from Seoul on November 5.

This means an excess of 0.3 billion dollars over the "government's" projections on foreign debts at the end of this year.

The balance of south Korea's foreign debts last year was 43.1 billion dollars.

Washington to Transfer Missile Parts to Seoul

The U.S. schemes to transfer to south Korea modification kits to improve the performance of Hawk air-defense missile batteries worth 61 million dollars for the acceleration of the "modernization" of the south Korean army, according to an report.

The U.S. Defense Department on October 30 announced that the price estimate in July had been improperly calculated and the actual value of the deal with the south Korean authorities would be 8 million dollars more than that.

54,700 cases of Juvenile Delinquencies Reported in First 9 Months

This year more than 54,700 cases of juvenile delinquencies had been reported in south Korea as of the end of September, according to the south Korean paper Hankuk Ilbo.

Among them were 3,490 cases of such crimes of violence as burglary and murder.

This was made public in data released by the public security headquarters on October 23.

Kim Dae Jung's Aide Arrested

Li Chong Su, an aide to Kim Dae Jung, opposition leader, drew a five-day detention term at a summary court on October 30 for his role in anti-government" publication.

Li was taken to police on October 28 for his involvement with the pamphlets titled "Uri Sosik", which carried an article calling for a revision of the "constitution", according to south Korean papers.

He was charged with spreading of "groundless" rumor.

Joint Committee against Torture Formed in Seoul

Anti-"government" dissidents in south Korea on November 4 formed a new human rights organization called a joint committee against arbitrary violence, torture and fabricated conspiracies by the Chon Junta, according to an AP report from Seoul.

Simultaneously with its formation, the organization issued a statement exposing the brutal tortures of students and prisoners becoming more wanton in south Korea these days, which was addressed to all international human rights organizations.

The statement called the new organisation a pan-national movement that brings together the churches, organisations in the democratic movement, the New Korea Democratic Party and the Council for the Promotion of Democracy and urged international human rights groups to send an investigation team to south Korea to look into the recent accusations of the south Korean authorities' tortures.

Meanwhile, the Youth Federation for Democracy and families of the members of this organisation also issued statements that day in denounciation of the brutal tortures.

The statements declared that "Their efforts to advance the cause of democracy will never slacken".

Kim Yong Sam, co-chairman of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, appeared before a news conference on October 29 and criticized the brutal tortures of students and prisoners, according to an AP report from Seoul.

Students Express Support for Struggle at American Chamber Of Commerce

Following the occupation of the American Chamber of Commerce by 14 students from 7 different universities and anti-U.S. demonstrations throughout south Korea, attended by more than 6,000 students on Nov. 4, about 2,500 students from 13 universities including Seoul National and Pusan universities again staged anti-U.S. demonstrations on November 5, shouting "Let the U.S. withdraw demand for south Korea's free import" and other slogans, according to Japanese news papers on November 6.

On the evening of that day, about 400 students from Seoul National, Korea, Yonsei and Sogang universities carried out an on-street demonstration in Changshin-dong, denouncing the U.S. economic demand on south Korea and clashed with riot police. Police arrested about 50 students there, according to a Kyodo report.

At Kookmin University in northern Seoul, students also clashed with teargas firing riot police when they tried to take to the street.

Students' struggles took place at seven universities.

Meanwhile more than 1,000 university students in Seoul waged the massive anti-U.S., anti-"government" struggle on November 7, according to a Reuter report.

The students took to the street and loudly shouted "Down with dictator Chon Du Hwan" and "We oppose U.S. trade imperialism."

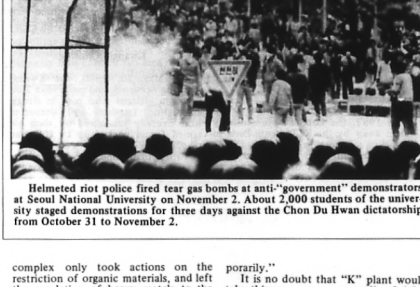
350 Anti-"Govt." Demonstrations with 75,000 Students in 2 Months

The south Korean "government" on November 5 reported in the national assembly that anti-"government" demonstrations occurred on 350 occasions, involving a total of 75,000 students from 71 universities, during in September to October this year, according to Jiji Press on Nov. 5.

It also said that five students burnt themselves to death in protest against the south Korean authorities during the term.

Meanwhile, the south Korean education ministry on Oct. 29 said that a total of 287 students at 24 universities were disciplined this year in connection with student struggles, 97 of them expelled from school.

The disciplinary action included 54 suspensions from school for an indefinite period and 59 for definite periods, according to the education ministry report to the national assembly. Seventy-seven others were given admoniton.



Helmeted riot police fired tear gas bombs at anti-"government" demonstrators at Seoul National University on November 2. About 2,000 students of the university staged demonstrations for three days against the Chon Du Hwan dictatorship from October 31 to November 2.

"To the Conscience of The World" (1)

— Voice of 700 Inhabitants of Onsan Suffering from Heavy Metal Pollution —

The south Korea Anti-Pollution Organization (KAPO) earlier made public a report entitled "To the Conscience of the World" which earnestly appealed to the world people to pay attention on serious condition of cadmium pollution in Onsan industrial region and Onsan Desease – some 500 inhabitants suffered from similar symptoms of "Itai, Itai" disease.

The south Korean daily Josun Ilbo (Chosen Ilbo) dated March 14 1985 said, "A few days ago, the reporter, who was the member of Josun Ilbo reported that he experienced a sharp pain in eyes and nose due to polluted air at Onsan village."

The KAPO report said that at the end of 1984, the number of patients who were suffering from this mysterious disease was about 500, but now the number has increased to 700 including many children.

"Worst this is that it is spreading to children," the KAPO said.

Here is a full text of the report issued by the KAPO:

– Voice of Inhabitants –

"When we served raw fish to the professors who came here for investigation, they refused to eat them. Now they are telling us that the pollution is not too serious that we don't have to worry about it."

Mr. Jonggue Park, an inhabitant of Ijinli

"Well, it's all right for us, old people, but please save our youngsters. If the government or the companies are not going to take responsibility for this disaster, then let all of us die and not live through this pain."

Mr. Sojeo Lee, an oldman, an inhabitant of Dalpoli

"We don't know how contaminated we are due to the heavy metal polluted sea foods and the polluted air we breathe.

Please do something to find the cause and to resolve this disaster."

A representative of inhabitants

• The predicted Onsan disease

So-called Onsan disease, the disease almost 700 Onsan people are suffering from, was predicted by many people since 1974 when industrial complex of nonferrous metal was established at Onsan. It was predicted because in developed countries such plants to be built in that area are prohibited. It's hard to find an industrial complex like the one built at Onsan anywhere else in the world. At least, there should have been plans to migrate the inhabitants or to take antipollution actions after the establishment of the complex to prevent this disaster.

Usually, under government protection, migration in inhabitants takes place before the establishment of large industrial complex, like one at Onsan, but due to negligence of government, individual companies at Onsan were able to purchase factory sites and the migration of inhabitants was overlooked. The sites purchased were slightly off the shore.

Out of 14,000 inhabitants, only about 17% of them migrated. The rest of them are still living at Onsan between plants and sea. Since 1978, when Korea Zinc Refinery first started running, 11 more plants including Onsan Copper Refinery, Pungsan Metals, Hyosung Aluminum, Gungi Chemicals, Ssanyong Oils, Donghae Pulps, Lucky, etc. started also. The heavy metals reach human body through so-called ecological pathway. Through food chain, from heavy metal thrown out by plants, they reach to human body with concentration factor of hundreds and thousands by ingestion of contaminated sea food.

• Onsan Bay ruined by heavy metal

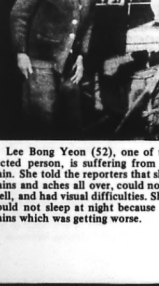
Onsan Bay where now is full of pollutants has been the dwelling place for the inhabitants. Even though the waters are polluted by the industrial complex, the inhabitants still live on the fish and other sea-food. The industrial complex at Onsan are still not taking any effective action to protect inhabitants from the pollutants they are sending out.

They have not equipped waste-water-treatment-plant nor the pipeline to deep sea. The contaminated water is flowing through small channel, Dae-Jung-Cheon, and directly into the sea. The authorities concerned and the associated of the complex only took actions on the restriction of organic materials, and left the regulation of heavy metals to the companies for self regulation. They said that the plants at Onsan are equipped with the latest antipollution facilities, but it is doubtful that they are operating them.

Accord to "K" plant, 1.1 million U.S. $/yr is spent for antipollution, but it is hard to believe. A professor who once participated in Onsan pollution measurement said, "When I first came to Onsan, this place was like hell. It has gotten much better. In my opinion "K" plant should spend approximately 0.6–0.7 million U.S. $ per year for effective prevention of pollution. However, it only takes 2-30 thousand U.S. $ for indemnity to inhabitants which will stop the complaints of inhabitants temporarily."

It is no doubt that "K" plant would take this easy way over spending 0.6-0.7 million $ annually. According to research done by Kyong Nam Health Center in 1984, the results show that there were Cd 0.045ppm and Pb 0.417ppm, 4 to 5 times the amount of standard concentration. Comparing this amount with other nearshore industrial complexes such as Pohang (Cd0.00022 ppm), Pusan (0.0021ppm), Gunsan, Masan (0.0012ppm), it is 20 to 30 times more concentrated.

(To be continued)



Lee Bong Yeon (52), one of the infected person, is suffering from severe pain. She told the reporters that she had pains and aches all over, could not walk well, and had visual difficulties. She also could not sleep at night because of her pains which was getting worse.

• indicates the region of inhabitants suffering from group neuralgia.

Artists Should Stand for Popular Masses

— South Korean Artists Hold Their Exhibition Here —

Lee Ung No and his wife Pak In Kyung, the most successful south Korean painters, held their co-exhibition in 3 parts: series named "the popular masses", series "the prison", series "the way" from Oct. 29 to Nov. 9 at the Kanagawa Prefectural Gallery.

The couple, Lee, 81 and his wife, Pak, 59, have been engaged in their artistic work in Paris since 1957.

They are now the most representative south Korean painters whose paintings are collected by many public and private galleries in the world. Excerpted here are from press interview held on Oct. 24:

"I am filled with deep emotion to be able to visit Japan after the elapse of 40 years. When I think this country is in the same Asia where my country is, I can't express my feelings easily", the wife couldn't continue, and suddenly burst into tears.

They can't go home. The dictatorial regime of the Chon junta prohibited them from exhibiting their works in south Korea, and the couple's names were deleted from a collection of south Korean paintings.

East Berlin Incident

In 1967, the couple were suddenly taken away by the KCIA from Paris to Seoul in connection with the "East Berlin Incident" and imprisoned there allegedly on charges of being engaged in "espionage activity", an incident known as a frame-up spy case by the south Korean authorities.

At that time Yun I Sang, a famous composer, in the world was also abducted from West Berlin, and this incident aroused international protests and anger against the south Korean authorities.

In West Germany, the Foreign Ministry expelled as many as 21 to 25 KCIA agents who acted there without permission of the FRG Government from its territory as violators of its national sovereignty and strongly demanded the Chon junta return those arrested to West Germany.

The similar action was also taken by the French Government. As a result, Mr. Lee who had been sentenced to life imprisonment, was released. 2 years and half months later and his wife 6 months later respectively.

In Prison

"What was most painful to me in prison was that I couldn't draw paintings as much as I wanted. If I, a painter, can't draw paintings, it would mean death to me.

". . . So in the meantime, I began to draw paintings on toilet paper with soy sauce not on canvases and with paint, or molded sculpture, using materials made of newspaper and grains of rice saved from daily meal little by little. . . I expressed my desperate anger against my unreasonable situation in my sculptures. In prison, I was awakened to politics which I had never concerned myself with before.

" That made me lead a new life," Lee said. (His works in prison titled series "prison" were on show at the exhibition")

Kwangju Uprising

On May 20, 1980, the Kwangju Uprising occurred, and more than 2,000 Kwangju citizens who rose in struggle demanding freedom and democracy were brutally massacred by their own armed forces backed up by U.S paratroopers.

From that time on, his paintings characterized as "abstract", came to have concrete elements. In other words, he began to introduce concrete elements into his art so that he could appeal to the minds of the popular masses. (This change was shown this time in the series "popular masses")

" . . . All tragidies of our country arise from the division of the country and U.S. support for the dictatorial regime of the Chon junta...

"For painters, paintings are their arms indeed.

"Artists had served and submitted themselves to the privileged for a long time.

" Yet modern artists, I think, should stand for the popular masses with his own idea and philosophy...", so saying, he expressed his firm determination to struggle for the reunification of Korea with his art, even at the risk of his life.

Profile of Lee Un No

- Born in 1904, South-Chungchong Province.
- studied under Kim Gae Jin in Seoul.
- His work was accepted for exhibition at the 3rd Korean fine arts exhibition in 1924, and won the highest honor at the 10th Korean fine arts exhibition.
- Went to Japan in 1935 and studied under Matzubayashi Keigetsu.
- Returned to Korea in 1945, and intended to develop traditional ways of expression in his paintings.
- Became head professor at the Oriental painting department of Hong Ik University, and founded a private institute for painting Ko Am.
- Went to France in 1958, and has been very active there in his artistic work. Since then his paintings have been collected or shown by many public and private galleries in the world.
- Founded the Institute of Oriental Fine Arts in the Cernuschi Oriental Museum, Paris.
- Taken away from Paris, on charges of "espionage activity" with Yun I Sang who were from West Berlin in connection with the "East Berlin Incident" in 1967 by the south Korean authorities, and restored his former situation 2 years and 9 months later.

Mr. Lee and his wife Pak

- Drew a series of paintings named "popular masses", while teaching in the Institute of Oriental Fine Arts.

1980's

- Opened several personal exhibitions in Switzerland, Italy, France,
- Made 2 medals for the Coin and Medal Museum, Paris in 1984.

Lee's "art" has changed every ten years. His paintings were based on oriental painting and calligraphy in his 20s, realistic in his 30s, anti-abstract in his 40s.

And his art has changed again since the "Kwangju Uprising" and now intends to draw more concrete paintings. The photo shows one painting from the series named "popular masses."

Sports and Culture

Chinese Railway Art Troup in DPRK

The Chinese Railway Art Troupe gave performances in Chongjin.

Its performance was appreciated by Cho Se Ung, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, chief secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee, Choe Jin Song, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, and other officials concerned, working people and artistes in the city.

The performers put on stage a colorful program of songs and dances of the two countries with the sentiments of fraternal friendship of the Chinese people for the Korean people.

A floral basket was presented to the Chinese artistes in congratulation of their successful performance.

The troupe also gave its performance at the Hamhung Grand Theatre on Nov. 3.

GDR Concert

PYONGYANG November 1 (KCNA) A concert of the German Democratic Republic was held at the Ponghwa Art Theatre on October 30 and 31 under the music exchange plan between the Korean Musicians Union and the GDR Union of Composers and Musicologists.

Musical works of noted GDR composers were put on stage at the concert performed by instrumentalists and a vocalist of the Korean State Symphony Orchestra.

The performers successfully represented the ideological and thematic contents of the works by their delicate and refined skill, talented artistry and flawless ensemble.

In the orchestral music and femal solo the performers won the acclamation of the audience by well depicting in lively and dynamic melodies and soft tunes the ardent love of the GDR people for their motherland and their noble spiritual world and energetic work for the building of a new life.

The concert helped toward deepening the feelings of friendship between the DPRK and GDR peoples and artists which is developing favourably day by day.

A Korean concert will be held in Berlin in may next year.

Sino-Korean Friendship Meeting

PYONGYANG November 3 (KCNA) A friendship meeting between officials of the South Hwanghae Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee and the members of the Chinese Shandong Provincial Friendship Delegation was held in Haeju on November 2.

Present there were the members of the delegation headed by Lu Hong, deputy governor of the Shandong Provincial People's Government of China.

Kim Dong Won, chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, and other officials concerned were also present.

Speeches were exchanged at the meeting which proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Successes of Korean Boxers

PYONGYANG November 2 (KCNA) Korean boxers Li Gyong Nam finished the winner in the 51 kg category at the 24th International Boxing Tournament of the Security Bodies of Socialist Countries held in Mongolia, according to a report.

Korean boxers Chang Yong Chol, Han Bong Chol, Chu Chun Gil and Sin Yong Gon placed third respectively in the 48, 57, 67 and 75 kg categories.

The korean boxers came off the bronze medalists in the total.

Korean Woman Got 1st in Asian Rowing Championships

PYONGYANG November 5 (KCNA) Korean rower Cho Hyang Suk came first in single sculls at the First Asian Rowing Championships held in Hongkong, according to a report.

The championships were participated in by over 200 excellent rowers from eight countries and regions including the D.P.R.K, China, Japan, India, Pakistan, Indonesia and Hongkong.

Promising Young Korean Runners

PYONGYANG November 4 (KCNA) Recent years have witnessed a rapid progress in track and field events in Korea.

At the Sixth Asian Track and Field Championships held in Indonesia in September last, Korean girl runners Paek Do Jong and Kim Ryon Sun came first each in the girls' 10,000 meters run and in the girls' 3,000 meters run. Korean runner Li Jong Hyong became the title holder in the men's marathon race.

16 year old girl runner Paek Do Jong has renewed the national records of the DPRK four times in the girls' 5,000 meters and 10,000 meters run in the last

(Continued on page 7)

Sketches from the Koguryo Mural Paintings

By Kim Han Mun

7) A Wild and Free World of Fantasy

Mural Painting of Tokhun-ri

(Continued from the previous issue)

8) Mural Paintings of Tokhun-ri

In the center of a large circle, which represents the moon, is drawn a frog. Smaller circles around it are meant to be stars, and dots in the centers are the central points of the compasses.

With a small fluttering flag in her left hand, a flying fairy holds a lotus-shape tray in her right hand as in the picture of the "Flying Fairy" of the Anak Tumulus No. 2. Though it lacks delicacy and gracefulness, compared to that, it is simple and clear. The work done in quick strokes gives a vivid effect.

In the Tokhun-ri Tumulus, a lot of fairies are painted on the wall.

When you find a picture of a bird with two human faces and a beast's body, you may feel you are in a world of fantasy. A futher observation will lead you to find names written on them each of which has different meaning attached to it.

The painter must have had great imagination, it seems. Especially, when you watch the pictures of animals, you can be more sure of his power of imagination. The pictures of flying fish, kirin (imaginary holy animal)-like horses, pegasuses, monstrous kirin, phoenix depicted like rooster and other imaginary animals jostle each other in confusion in a constellation including the Great Dipper painted on a cupola-shaped ceiling.

The Milky Way is painted between the God Altair leading an ox and the sorrowful Goddes Vega accompanied by a dog.

In a tumulus, the ceiling is, in a sense, another microcosm made by man. There, according to an ancient belief, the deceased rests in peace.

Paintings in the Tokhun-ri Tumulus are like a jewel casket of fantastic legends.

The composition and arrangement of object out of the ordinary, simple and powerful touches as well as the free style of painting, such as that of children's drawings, are mixed up to produce an effective fruit here.

The mural paintings of the Tokhun-ri Tumulus fully display the free and unrestrained style of Koguryo mural paintings.

(To be continued)

(Continued from page 6)

two years. She made her debut in the International Games to emerge as a top-notch girl runner in Asia.

Korean girl runner Kim Ryon Sun who won the Asian Championship title twice in the girls' 3,000 meters run has long drawn the attention of track and field experts.

In 1983 when she was 15 years old, she participated in the Fifth Asian Track and Field Championships to win a championship title in the girls' 3,000 meters run and a bronze medal in the girls' 1,500 meters run.

Many runners of Korea have won their fame in the world and Asian Track and field events.

At the Ninth Asian Games held in 1982, Chang Yong Ae set Asian records in the girls' 800 meters run and 1,500 meters run. In the games Korean girl runners Kim Ok Son and Kim Chun Hwa respectively carried off a gold medal and a silver medal in the girls' 3,000 meters run.

At the Eighth Asian Games held in 1978 and the Asian Track and Field Meet held in Japan in 1979, Kim Ok Son came first in the girls' 3,000 meters run and 1,500 meters run by excellent records.

Korean boy Li Jong Hyong became the first title holder in the marathon race held for the first time at the Sixth Asian Track and Field Championships.

At the 47th World Peace Marathon Race held in 1977, our runner Ko Chun Son and Choe Chang Rip came first and second, leaving behind them a GDR runner who won the marathon title at the 21st Olympic Games.

At the Fifth Essonnes International Marathon Race held in 1979 with the participation of more than 1,500 well-known runners from 25 countries, Ko Chun Son covered the distance in 2 hours and 13 minutes and 20 seconds, leaving a British runner who was the previous title holder one kilometer behind him, to establish a new record.

At the Sixth Essonnes International Marathon Race held in 1980, Ko Chun Son again carried off the gold medal by improving his record of the race by 2 minutes and 28 seconds.

Korean girl Li Sun Bok came third in the women's marathon race at the Sixth Asian Track and Field Championships.

In Korea many runners are being trained. As they are young, they are very promising.

(KCNA)

New Film Released

No. 9 "Star of Korea"

A scene from "Star of Korea" at the studio.

The Paekdusan Production and the Korean Film Studio produced "Legend of Laoheishan," part 9 of the feature film "Star of Korea".

The film is based on a story that Comrade Kim Il Sung called a meeting of the committee for political work with Anti-Japanese Soldiers at Taipinggou village of Luozigou in late October 1932 and conducted brilliant activities, advancing into Laoheishan area in order to strengthen the joint front with the Anti-Japanese Units of China and returned to the guerrilla-held area in February 1933.

The film gives a profound answer to the question as to what is the source of the indestructible strength of the Korean revolution by depicting on a high artistic level on a historic principle those days when Comrade Kim Il Sung, commanding the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army which was founded less than one year before, pulled through rigorous trials and death line defying human imagination in order to pave the road of the Korean revolution.

At a Crossroad of Traditional and Modern Beauty

2. Korean Painting "Secret Camp in Mt. Paekdu"

Painted by People's Artist Kim Chun Jon

The painter created a lyrical world made up of snow-covered larch trees and a secret camp of the Anti-Japanese Guerilla Army in the middle, with snow falling silently on the primeval forests.

With his skilful touch and fast painting method, he well expresses the powerful life of trees by drawing larch trees waiting for spring in deep snow.

The painter exhibits rich emotions and a nice sense in colouring and an ability to create a lyrical world with secret power inside.

The picture shows his style of painting which presents a contrast with that of Chong Yong Man, painter of "Mt. Paekdu", a giftful creator of a powerful world on canvases.

Kim Chun Jon, People's Artist, born in 1942 in Pyongan Province, is now head of the Korean Painting Group of the Mansudae *Changjak* Company. He is also actively working as one of the executive committee members of the Korean Artists' League's Central Committee.

Over 60 of his masterpieces were all highly valued in exhibitions at home and abroad and many of them are designated as National Treasure.

He visited the USSR, China, the GDR, Poland and Japan and helped promoting art exchange with these countries.

Demystifying North Korea (2)

(Continued from the previous issue)

We visited the Grand People's Study Hall, a simply monstrous building, in which books, records, videotapes, and classes of all kinds are available to adults. The point is that everyone is encouraged to study at all times. The literacy rate exceeds 85 percent. Adults are required to attend the study hall one day per week. In the main People's Study Hall, there are over 13 million books, all computerized – any book can be secured by the computer within two minutes. All rooms are equipped with the latest SONY equipment, and there are t.v.s, computers, musical and other audio systems at people's disposal. People are free to study any discipline. This applies to agricultural workers, industrial workers, and students. Every room in every institution of learning in the DPRK has a picture of the great leader, Kim Il Sung, on one of its walls. At the same time, we noticed that the longer a person had been a student, and the more sophisticated the adult, the less often was the great leader mentioned in their conversation.

Every person is encouraged to use the health spas that are located throughout the country. The one we toured – the showcase, I'm sure – had swimming pools, saunas, beauty parlors, and exercise rooms.

The priority of children was never more evident than in the highly sophisticated Maternity Hospital. Again, we toured the central hospital in Pyongyang. The most advanced equipment of all hospitals is used on pregnant women. The medical equipment we saw was made in Eastern Europe and Japan. In the area of medical care alone, my feeling is that the DPRK offers a much more equitable system than found in many countries – including the USA. The quality of the technology may not be as high as in most developed countries (although it is surprisingly high) and the quality of professional care is probably inferior to that found in the USA, but the technology and training that is available is given to all irrespective of vocation, financial resources, or position in society.

Incidentally, we were told at the Maternity Hospital that there is no need for birth control in the DPRK. For one thing, more babies are desirable. For another, there are no unwanted children. Marriages are all planned. There is no sexual disease, and we were told there were no abortions. The birth rate is 1.5 percent and the life expectancy is now 76 years.

Economic Development

Everyone in the DPRK is engaged in some kind of work. Highest wages are never more than 10 percent greater than the lowest wages. They are based on "how much energy is expended" in the task. Heavy industrial work is paid greater than lighter work. Nursery school teachers may make more than some university professors. We asked whether "mental work" was paid on a higher scale than "physical work," but were told that it was impossible to generalize. The aims of the work system are to involve skills in every instance. Nobody thinks of the possibility of unemployment. If, in the state plan, an industry is automated or mechanized, workers will be shifted to another project.

This coordination is possible because of a democratically centralized method of establishing economic work plans. For example, at a local factory we saw workers involved in an elaborate process of assessing their productive capabilities, workers safety issues, quotas, and so forth. We noted that there is incentive built into the labor process. The highest rewards are for the invention of an idea that increases productivity or makes for a more efficient production process. Many times the reward is financial, other times it is a promotion. Under the work system, management positions are intimately related to the shop floor – we were told that workers and managers have mutual authority in setting goals. The differences come in areas and levels of responsibility. National coordination of the economy means that companies do not come and go from local areas and leave workers standard without a livelihood or in a situation where they must be supported by the state because there is no work.

There are major economic goals in the DPRK: 1) to increase mechanization, 2) to advance forms of chemicalization, 3) to reclaim tideland and construct projects, and 4) to develop electrification and thermal-power installations. We asked whether everyone in the country had enough to eat and were told to ask "What does the community say?" We answered they'd say "yes." The consumption/surplus ratio is 3:1. We asked if there were any reserves and were told yes. The surplus finances the construction of schools, hospitals, and government buildings. We know much of it goes to insure an active military. We asked if there were banks, if people had savings accounts and could get loans. We were told yes and that the interest rate averages 3 to 4 percent.

Primary trade relations are with the USSR, China, Eastern Europe, Third World countries, and some individual companies in capitalist Europe, excluding Great Britain. 70 percent of all raw materials are used internally. People believe that if they use their own raw materials, the economy will not be subject to rapid fluctuation and will not encourage dependency. 98 percent of the machinery in the DPRK is made in the DPRK. Industry, like self-sufficiency, is glorified. They export machine tools, tractors, electric locomotives, and so forth.

There are two distinctions of class in the economy; the worker class and the peasant class. Workers contribute to a nationally owned, operated, and planned economy. Peasants, most of whom are agricultural workers, work in cooperative farms, which exist to profit only those who are members of the co-op. In time, it is hoped that peasants will see the value of nationally owned and planned economic life and will elect to change their co-ops to state ownership. The state now sells fertilizer and machinery to the co-ops without profit and buys back agricultural products not used by the co-op at regular market prices. Of course, the government is trying to educate the peasants about a different conception of ownership and the virtues and strengths of the philosophy of "all for one and one for all." To do this, the government requires the military and state workers to spend occasional weekends providing assistance and work in the co-op fields. These workers are not paid – their labor, in effect, benefits and increases the profits of the co-op. The point is to enlarge the peasants' understanding of "self-interest."

All social organizations, unions, and political parties are seen as having political responsibilities. Whether it is the youth league, the women's league, a worker-based union, a community social group, or a political party – the primary purposes are the same: 1) to provide a means for participation in the decisions that affect everyday life, 2) to provide a structure for continuing education of the population, and 3) to provide better community relations.

Organizations and parties do not play an adversarial role in the DPRK. Trade unions in the DPRK never negotiate with the workers' party of the government on labor relations. We were told that under this sector participation structures within each work place this function of unions was not necessary.

The important point is that everyone is involved in a union and in some kind of political group. The participation is not granted as a privilege, but is everyone's responsibility – and this is enforced. It is extremely difficult to convey the feelings of community and interconnections felt between people about institutions in the DPRK. Concepts such as democracy, freedom, rights, and liberties are seen both in their individual and communal senses.

(End)

(Continued from page 1)

report dated November 5.

But, the takeover protest was forced to end when police rushed in to arrest the students, backed by spraying the office with a high-pressure hose.

Additional Impetus

The occupation was not simply aimed at complaining about the U.S.'s manhandling of the south Korean economy, but at taking a forward step to the attainment of democracy based on political and economic guarantees.

It was the second occupation of an American facility in south Korea this year.

Although it shared some parallels with the student action at the Seoul library of the U.S. Information Service in May, the two cases played different roles in expediting the democracy-seeking movement.

The latest one took place against the background of bilateral trade friction (U.S. curb on South Korean imports and demand that Seoul open its markets to more American goods) and in a prospect that the U.S. demand may greatly damage the export-led economy of Seoul, at a time when its foreign debts are about to hit $50 billion, and the economic performance this year is poorer than anticipated.

While the 72-hour library sit-in played an effective role in impressing the anti-democratic nature of U.S. policy on south Koreans' minds, the 14 student protesters declared that it is also the Americans that suppress the south Korean people economically, through their 2-hour occupation which was covered by south Korean and foreign mass media.

Considering that the protests of the students, who may be said to have acted as spokesmen for the people in the two big incidents, zeroed in on the United States, they clearly recognized the American ill will over what is a major obstacle to a democratic development of the country and came to know that the successive regimes of south Korea have been used merely to conceal the U.S.'s true character.

In this sense, it can be said that the takeover of the U.S. commercial office gave additional impetus to the several-decade-long history of student struggles in south Korea.

Drama of Students' Protest

The curtain was raised on the drama of protests when 14 students at about 11:15 a.m. entered the chamber on the third floor of the downtown Chosun (Korea) Hotel, located only about two blocks from the USIS building in Seoul.

The protesters who were not armed locked themselves by barricading the glass doors with furniture with three employees left inside and put a flag and protest signs criticizing the U.S. and the regime on the windows, threatening to set gasoline spilled on the carpet alight if police tried to enter.

After establishing contact with the authorities, the students freed the employees, according to a foreign press report from Seoul.

Their assertions made clear by a hand-held microphone and placards included the following: 1) the Americans are applying strong pressure on south Korea to open its markets, 2) the U.S. is trying to shift its own economic crisis on to south Korea and 3) the U.S. harshly demands that only south Korea open its markets, but does not demand Japan do so, which is responsible for 40% of the American trade deficits.

By telephone they told the office of the south Korean paper Dong-A Ilbo, "We will never withdraw until we meet the U.S. Ambassador. We warn beforehand that if police try to break up (the sit-in), all of us will commit suicide by setting fire."

They also said, "We urge police not to prevent free coverage by newsmen," reported the south Korean paper on November 4.

During the protest, reporters were strictly kept away from the scene.

About 200 riot police were posted inside and outside the hotel and 5 police buses, 2 fire engines and others were also on hand.

When four students went outside the office to hang two big placards reading "Against opening markets for imports", chanting protest slogans, plainclothesmen detained them to arrest one student, but the rest of them fled into the office.

Two hours later, police action started after firefighters showered the office with a high-pressure hose.

Plainclothes police broke through a locked door as the other police entered through the windows.

Some of the demonstrators were bleeding from their faces.

When students were taken out of the building to police buses, they never ceased to shout such slogans as "Down with the military dictatorship . . . Struggle for democracy. . . U.S. apologize for unfair trade policies," AP reported.

The windows of the buses were completely covered with curtains so as not to let reporters or others look inside.

Premeditated Action

The November 4 takeover of the commercial office coincided with a series of demonstrations and protest meetings in different parts of the country which were attended by a total of 5,600 students from 13 universities and colleges, according to a Kyodo report from Seoul.

The demonstrators who shouted the same slogans as those at the Seoul sit-in, calling for the withdrawal of U.S. demand for open markets, are believed to have started their action in response to the occupation protest.

In Seoul National University, about 1,500 students from 7 universities, after reading a message of protest against the U.S. economic pressure, clashed with riot police, hurling petrol bombs and stones.

The fact that so many students took protest action in different forms and in different places at the same time with the same slogans shows that their actions were precisely coordinated in advance and were firmly united to redouble the effect of their anti-U.S. and anti-Chon struggle, as illustrated by the fact that the sit-in protesters on the phone answered the question "How did students gather from seven universities?" by saying, "We consulted beforehand (on that matter)," as Dong-A Ilbo reported.

Meanwhile, anti-government meetings and demonstrations have been activated with the passage of time as the Chon junta further strengthened its hard-line policy against students.

More than 400 students have been arrested since the USIS incident.

THE PEOPLE'S KOREA Published every Saturday by the Chosun Sinbo Company For subscription or further details, please write to the Editorial Department, 5, Tsukudo-Hachiman-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162 Japan Tel. 03-260-5881 Anybody is free to reproduce or quote any stories or articles in The People's Korea.